

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

May 2, 2006

On Tuesday, May 2, 2006, at 6:00 P.M., the Edgefield County Council held its regular meeting in the County Council Chambers at 225 Jeter St., Edgefield.

Members present

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Norman Dorn, Councilman
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman
B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

Others present

Wayne Adams, County Administrator
John Byrd, Jr., County Attorney
Lynn Strom, Finance and Budget Manager
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kneece and the invocation was given by Councilman Hudson. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

Minutes

Councilman Bright made the motion to accept the April 4, 2006, Edgefield County Council minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kitchens and the motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Reports were reviewed with no comments.

Public Hearing

Two public hearings were held during the May 2nd meeting to receive written and oral comments on the following ordinances:

Ordinance No. 05-06-577, "An Ordinance Amending Title XV, Chapter 152 of the Edgefield County Code of Ordinance to Establish a Rural-Residential Development Zoning District, to Specify Uses Permitted Therein, and to Determine those Tax Map Parcels Included within its Boundaries."

The Chairman asked Howard Gibson to address the audience concerning this ordinance – exactly what the ordinance meant. Mr. Gibson stated that the main thing was for everyone to understand what was taking place. A packet had been sent to each property owner and the property involved was posted. Property owners on Courtney Road and in

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes May 2, 2006

the Lake Trenton area have worked with the Planning Commission on this particular zoning matter for over a year. There isn't any use in the area at the present time that would not be allowed in the future. It keeps out commercial concentrated animal feed lots – pig parlors – cattle feed lots. But as far as all manners of farming, if you have goats you can get more goats, horses, cows. This zoning will only stop the large concentration. It would also cut out where anyone could put a large store or industry or a junk yard. It would not stop a convenience store or a mobile home. There are conditions (special regulations) tied to other ordinances that protect what is there.

The chairman asked for a show of hands opposing the zoning. There were none. In favor of zoning was 100% among those present. Since no one from that area opposed the zoning, the chairman and those in attendance agreed to forgo the remainder of the public comment period.

Ordinance No. 05-06-579, “An Ordinance Providing for the FY 2006-2007 Edgefield County Operating and Ancillary Budgets.”

There were no comments, written or oral, on Ordinance No. 05-06-579.

Ordinances

Second reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-577, “An Ordinance Amending Title XV Chapter 152 of the Edgefield County Code of Ordinances to Establish a Rural-Residential Development Zoning District, to Specify Uses Permitted Therein, and to Determine those Tax Map Parcels Included within its Boundaries,” was approved unanimously by a motion made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright.

Second reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-579, “An Ordinance Providing for the FY 2006-2007 Edgefield County Operating and Ancillary Budgets” was approved unanimously by a motion made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Bright. Mr. Hudson asked that consolidated animal feeding operations be defined, so council and the public can know what number of animals is the cutoff point.

At this point Mrs. Dot Mims, representing the Civic League, informed council that Mrs. Lynn Booream, its Secretary-Treasurer, was unable to attend the April council meeting due to the fact she had suffered a stroke. Mrs. Mims stated that a committee has been formed to administer the League's funds until Mrs. Booream is able to resume the duties. She also thanked the council for its support.

Third reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-578, “An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances for Edgefield County, SC” was approved unanimously by a motion made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes May 2, 2006

New Business

Dr. Lex Walters, Piedmont Technical College President, addressed council thanking them for the support given to the Technical College this past year and increasing the college's budget the year before. He stated they are requesting an increase in the budget again this year.

Dr. Walters spoke concerning the new pottery facility on the Edgefield Campus that will nearly double the training space of the college. It will be completed this summer with a dedication on July 20th. "As we look to the future to provide the quality of instruction and the range of instruction in that facility, our costs will be going up. We hope, as we look to the future that council will be in a position to assist the college in the increased costs relating to about doubling the square footage of the instructional space."

Mr. Jim Klauber gave further details of the new facility, including the completion date and the dedication. July 20th. A program director has been hired for the ceramics program, Mr. Gary Clontz. He comes from Heyward Community College in North Carolina. He and his wife will be moving to Edgefield within the next few months.

Mr. Klauber stated they are raising money to help pay for the building; he has applied for a grant which is a competitive grant with only \$9.3 million to be distributed and many more millions in requests. The Town of Edgefield has approved a three-year commitment of \$15,000 per year (\$45,000) to the Center for its capital construction. Mr. Klauber asked Council to please consider making a commitment to support Piedmont Tech of a like amount or a greater amount. He stated that he feels the pottery center has a bright future in becoming a national center for Edgefield potter and for becoming "the" training institution for alkaline glazed pottery in the country, which is our goal as we look down the road.

We are asking council to maybe consider \$20,000 a year over a period of three years as you are going through budget deliberations. That would help in trying to get the center off to a good start.

Consensus of council was to discuss this request at its May 16th budget work session.

Brookstone Apartments

At this point the Chairman recognized Ms. Colleen Sinard, so that she could return to Columbia. Ms. Sinard addressed council requesting a letter of support for Brookstone Apartments on Murrah Road Extension. She thanked council for their support last year but what she proposed last year did not get funded – it was a very competitive cycle and other selections were made at the state level. Basically, the same proposal is being presented this year, and it is one that will benefit working folks in Edgefield County.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes May 2, 2006

The chairman, just for council's benefit, stated that this is a carry over from last year and this is renewing the letter of support. Motion was made by Councilman Bright to renew the letter of support, seconded by Councilman Hudson. Motion carried unanimously.

Hospital Board

Two vacancies have been created on the Edgefield County Hospital Board by the resignations of Mrs. Hazel Kitchens and Mrs. Patricia Bryan. Mrs. Kitchens' term expires January 2007, and Mrs. Bryan's term expires January 2009.

The Hospital Board recommended to council Mr. Thomas Nidiffer of North Augusta to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Kitchens and Mr. Jack Tiller of Johnston to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Bryan. Each has agreed to serve. The motion to accept Messrs. Nidiffer and Tiller was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Kitchens. The motion carried unanimously.

Contracts

Janitorial

Six bids (1 incomplete) were received for janitorial services for eleven Edgefield County buildings:

(1)	Sizemore, Inc.,	Greenwood, SC	\$122,149.04
(2)	Peach City Enterprises	Johnston, SC	\$143,497.84
(3)	Walker Janitorial	Aiken, SC	\$ 58,258.20
(4)	KLN Cleaning	Irmo, SC	\$ 59,500.00
(5)	Diversco Intergrated Services	Spartanburg, SC	\$111,323.68
(6)	Zap Pro Cleaning	Winnsboro, SC	incomplete

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to accept the low bid of \$58,258.20 submitted by Walker Janitorial. Motion carried unanimously.

Pest Control

Two bids were received for pest control:

(1)	Southern Chem-Tech	Johnston, SC	\$3,102.00
(2)	Horne's Pest Control	Evans, Ga.	\$3,432.00

Councilman Kitchens made the motion to accept the bid of \$3,102.00 submitted by Southern Chem-Tech. Motion was seconded by Hudson, and carried unanimously.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes May 2, 2006

Grounds

Four bids were received for ground maintenance:

(1)	Southern Chem Tech	Johnston, SC	\$12,175.00
(2)	Green Acres	Johnston, SC	\$14,910.00
(3)	Moss Ground Care	Johnston, SC	\$32,905.00
(4)	Grass Master	Honeapath, SC	\$40,510.00

Councilman Dorn made the motion to accept Southern Chem Tech's bid of \$12,175.00 for ground maintenance of county buildings. Councilman Hudson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mama's Truck (food delivery)

Charlotte Seawright explained the mission of Mama's Truck. It is a food delivery and the mission is to make sure no one in the state is hungry. It is Edgefield based. Five counties in South Carolina are served. The County of Edgefield is served once a month – in conjunction with the Golden Harvest Food Bank, for almost a year. Golden Harvest was not able to supply food for the month of May in Edgefield County, so another food bank has assisted in supplying 1,000 lbs. of fresh vegetables to be distributed in May in Edgefield County. The Mission itself has funded the other 4,000 lbs. of food.

There are no requirements except that recipients come and take a number and stand in line. "I have seen close to 500 families come out on Saturday morning for this food. The very best of vegetables, bread, coffee cakes, donuts, etc. is given out."

The coordinators of this program live in Trenton and there are several committees that help with this food bank: executive committee, community relations committee, a facilities committee, TV advisory committee, financial development committee, food sources committee and a volunteer committee. This mission is completely volunteer-based. The food truck is taken to Country Manor at least once a month – free breakfast is provided there every Saturday morning. They also have an emergency food bank associated with Mama's Truck

Mrs. Seawright asked for any monetary donation the council could give as well as any facility that could be used for the storing of food. There have been problems with food being stolen from the present storage area. They would be glad to renovate any available facility.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes May 2, 2006

Councilman Dorn made a motion to donate \$200 to Mama's Truck to purchase food for the needy and to be considered, including a larger amount in the 2006-07 budget. Councilman Kitchens seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Kitchens suggested to Mrs. Searwright that she contact ECCHO concerning storage in that building which is located on Gray St. in Edgefield.

Carpet

The following bids were received to install 250 square yards of carpet in four (4) county offices: EMS Building, RMC (Clerk of Court), Probate Judge (2 offices) and the Finance Director's office in the Administration Office.

(1)	The Carpet Shop	Augusta, Ga.	\$ 7,880.00
(2)	Bonitz Flooring	Augusta, Ga.	\$ 8,937.00
(3)	AAAA's	Columbia, SC	\$10,750.00

Councilman Kitchens made a motion, seconded by Councilman Bright, to accept the low bid of \$7,880.00 submitted by The Carpet Shop. Motion carried unanimously.

Irrigation pump / Bettis Park

Three bids for the installation of an irrigation pump at Bettis Park were received. The bid of \$10,000 submitted by Graves Water Services, Inc. included taxes and freight making it the lowest bid of the three received. Hughes Solution Supply Service (\$9,586.66) and W. P. Law, Inc. (\$9,899.08) did not include taxes or freight.

Councilman Bright made the motion, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to approve the \$10,000 bid submitted by Graves Water Services to install an irrigation pump at Bettis Park, and not to exceed the \$10,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Right-of-Way / Unpaved County Roads

The administrator addressed council on this issue. "As Council knows there are many older roads we have inherited with only ditch line to ditch line right of way. Some people call that a prescriptive easement. Basically, what it is, is that we only have the traveling surface and that is by custom, not by a deed. Some of these roads, as we try to improve them, we find that the road (the traveling surface) is not wide enough to go in and pave the road. But the residents generally want us to take as little property as we can to in order to get the (paved) road in. Now my question is whether we can carry from the construction requirements we have for new roads (50 ft. for paved roads and 66 ft. for dirt roads) and take something less than that to put the road in if it is o.k. with the engineer."

The chairman stated that he has ridden about every road in the county and he felt there are not ten roads in this county that have a fifty or sixty foot right of way- lucky to get twenty five to thirty feet. If you hold it to a forty-eight to a fifty foot right of way, you are

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes May 2, 2006

out of the business in paving county roads. In one day, the administrator and the road supervisor rode about six roads and measured several and some of the right of way is as low as eighteen – twenty feet. Some of them are already paved. Mr. Kneece's suggestion was to take the roads on a road-by-road basis. Windy Ridge, in Mr. Kneece's opinion, will never be paved if you hold it to that right of way (50 ft.) There are some that bottle neck in and some that bottle neck out. If you take it on a case by case basis and you get down to a twenty eight or thirty feet, pave the road that you can do with that and then put a thirty-thirty five mph speed limit sign.

Question was asked concerning who is in charge of paving roads: county or transportation committee? Mr. Adams explained. "The C-fund committee has custody of the funds and they determine how those are spent. County Council has custody of the roads and no work can be done to a county road unless the county agrees to it. That is determined by the standards we have or the wishes otherwise expressed by council. There have been roads paved where we do not have fifty foot right of way. One road that was measured a few weeks ago (engineer and myself) was Whitlock Road, which is off Highway 25, down below Trenton. We measured all the way across to all of the ditching that was used and needed, and in that case it was forty two feet.

Question: Who has the final say on C funds (how they are used). The Transportation Committee has the authority to appropriate the funding. There are two ways you can have a Transportation Committee. (1) A separate committee appointed by the legislative delegation, (2) Council itself serves as the C fund committee. You cannot mix the two – all or none. It is state money that is allocated to the county based on road miles, gas tax collection, and population. There are guidelines the Transportation Committee has to go by. The money has to be spent on paving and they have to spend it on what is termed to be a public road. It does not specify how wide the road has to be. So, if we want to pave a thirty foot road council can approve it. A state road has to have sixty-six feet of right of way.

Motion made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Hudson to stay with the standards that we have but if there is a request to vary from the standards, then the request would be taken to county council. Motion carried unanimously.

EMS

Jewel Plaxco, EMS Director, briefed council on EMS Week (May 14 - 20).

Monday there will be a car seat safety program at the Bi-Lo shopping center. Car seats are being donated to EMS by DHEC (injury protection division). Parents will be instructed on the proper use and installation of car seats.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes May 2, 2006

Tuesday, safety presentations and tours of the ambulance will be held at different child care centers – two centers in Merriwether.

Wednesday, there will be blood pressure screening at Medical Park Apartments and Country Manor. Medical information on individuals will be made available, so if EMS has to respond to a call the information will be there. Blood pressure screening will be held at Bi-Lo that afternoon.

Thursday, which will follow the same format as that for Wednesday, will be conducted at Park Avenue at Hazelwood and Vintage Garden Park Apartments. From 5:30 to 7:30 county council and staff of the council office are invited to the EMS building for dinner and presentation of other safety projects.

Friday the Home Schooled will be at the EMS base for an ambulance tour, first aid and CPR equipment demonstration, and safety presentation to the children.

Saturday EMS Families and Friends Day luncheon at the soccer field in Edgefield.

Old Business

Zoning Board of Appeals

The three-year terms of Michael Medlock, James Gibson, and Herbert Bettis have expired. It is necessary to reappoint or replace these members so that the County can schedule training sessions to meet new state requirements.

Councilman Bright recommended Mr. James Cook of Community Road, Trenton, to replace Mr. Herbert Bettis and Chairman Kneece recommended Mr. Jim McCord, Trenton, to replace Mr. James Gibson. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded, by Councilman Bright, to approve the appointments of Messrs. Cook and McCord to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried unanimously. A third name will be submitted to Council at the next meeting, or as soon thereafter.

SC National Heritage Corridor

Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens and seconded by Councilman Dorn to postpone the Heritage Corridor request until the May 16th budget work session.

Guests

Windy Ridge Road

Mr. George Johnson, resident of Windy Ridge Road, thanked council for allowing him to address them again. He presented a petition with fourteen signatures (majority of residents on Windy Ridge) to pave the portion of the road that is not paved. Mr. Johnson asked does it mean (from listening to previous discussion on roads) that one or two

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes May 2, 2006

people can determine whether Windy Ridge is paved. Mr. Johnson asked for some type of decision in writing.

The suggestion by Councilman Kitchens was to consider this road under the policy that was just discussed earlier in the meeting – consider each road under its own merits – have the engineer look at each road.

Mr. Adams suggested that for Windy Ridge and Townes Road council could have the engineer draw up a rough plan by which he could stake the minimum right of way he would need and the property owners would know what they would have to give up and could factually agree to it. Then council could make its decision on whether that road would be an exception to the existing policy or not. The engineer is planning to have this done on Towne Road within a couple of weeks. He also has to get a surveyor to go and help stake the right of way. The process takes a little time – maybe six to eight weeks. Mr. Adams stated that he will not promise that certain road will be paved by a certain day and does not want to lead anyone to expect that. We will get to it as quickly as plans can be drawn and the right of way staked. From that point, Mr. Johnson can ask his neighbors if they will give what has been defined as the needed right of way.

The question from the Windy Ridge residents: “Why not pave what we got?” No opposition to paving Country Way. Right of way is there – although it is not a highly traveled road. Just pick up the pieces and go from there.

The Chairman instructed the Administrator to go ahead and have the engineer work up something that can be done on Windy Ridge with what is there, and keep Mr. Johnson informed as what progress is being made.

Councilman Dorn asked would it not be good for all five councilmen to go as a group to look at the road – if everyone could get together. Mr. Kneece volunteered to go with any of the councilmen to view the road.

Comments from the public

Three citizens from the Lake Trenton area signed up to address council but after the public hearing all were satisfied with the outcome so none chose to speak. Mark Roberts and Nadine Horne thanked council.

No executive session

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
Minutes
May 2, 2006

Claims approved

A. PAYROLL: 3/27/06 thru 4/9/06

Regular.....\$190,547.18

PAYROLL: 4/10/06 thru 4/23/06

Regular.....\$196,800.95

B. General Operating.....\$632,292.04

There being no further business, Councilman Dorn moved to adjourn. A budget work session will be held at 6:00 Tuesday, May 16th in the County Council Chambers, with the next regular meeting council scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, 2006.

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Norman Dorn, Council

Joel D. Hudson, Councilman

B. Everette Kitchens, Council

ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

ATTEST

